City Council.

The Council was in regular session last night, all the members present except Messrs. Bell and Craig, who are out of town. An unusually large amount of business was considered, much of it of first importance, giving rise to extended discussion, but owing to the late hour of adjournment, a meagre report only can be furnished.

The matter of the street railway franchise came up under a report from the Committee by Mr. Tams, communicating the response of the Messrs. Adams, who ask for a simplification of the ordinances, as they are now made in the shape of amended laws. The restrictions of privilege and obligations to the city and public are not modified in any material manner—in one sense the responsibilities of the Company are enlarged in security to the city and public. The further consideration was passed by for the night.

On motion of Mr. Crimmins, the instalment of pay due the city fire department was ordered to be paid.

The petition of citizens protesting against the franchise of a Street Railway Company, was read. It opposes the construction upon several grounds.

1st. The streets are not of sufficient width to accommodate it and the trade upon them in wagons.

2d. Especially would it work a hardship to the wholesale merchants on Augusta Street in handling their wagon-trade.

3d. It is the opinion of the petitioners that the street railway would divert trade from the city.

4th. No good results would follow from it, and there is no necessity for it. The city is now on the up-grade to prosperity, and the incumbrance of a street railway in our narrow avenues would seriously injure that prosperity.

The petition is signed by J. A. Fauver & Co.' Eakle, Spitler & Co., Frank Alexander & Co., Edward Alexander & Co., P. B. Sublett & Co., M. Kivlighan, Baker & Brown, Hope & Hutchinson, P. N. Powell & Son, H. E. Loving, R. L. Stratton, John B. Hoge, F. W. Haner, Joseph H. Barth, J. N. Anderson, Mrs. B. Bolen, in part, J. H. Plecker, Mowry & Whitmore, Jas. H. Skinner, Stack & Powell, F. W. Hamer, Jno Burns, Kinzley & Knowles, in part, Alex. H. H. Stuart, L. N. Long, Joseph A. Waddell, Y. M. Bickle.

George S. Lightner, Esq., counsel for the petioners, was present, and stated that at the future meeting when the question would come up, he and his associate counsel, not present to night, would appear and discuss the matter.

The matter of the Telephone service came up again by the application of the Bell Telephone Company through their representative, Mr. McClure, of Richmond, for a clear field, and Judge Calvert, of Shenandoah, representing the rights of Mr. Rosenberger, who owns the plant. The positions of the parties were explained by their representatives as well as by Mr. McQuaide, Chairman of the Street Committee. Mr. Rosenberger owns the plant which he cannot restore to service till 1892, when the Bell patent on the Phones expires.—He is willing to rent or give the Bell Telephone his plant till that time, if it is then returned in the order in which it is received.—This is not acceptable to the Bell Company who want the perpetual privilege.

All franchises for the telephone service having been forfeited, and the ordinances providing for such lines when practicable in the future upon the poles used in the street railway and City Electric service, that phase of the matter was presented by Mr. Tams. After considerable discussion, and Mr. McClure and Judge Calvert, respectively, heard again, the whole subject went over to the meeting of to-morrow night, and the street committee in the meantime will hear from the parties, if the matter can be arranged.

The Council extended the time to the 1st of July next, during which the Superintendent of the water-works can retain possession of the dwelling at the park, but with the understanding that his cattle must be kept out of the park.

The Council adjourned at a late hour to meet again to-morrow (Thursday) night at 7 o'clock, when all matters pertaining to the franchise of a street railway will be considered.